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FROM-Praxair, Inc.

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T-011 P.006/015 F-018

CS-21,295
U.S. Serial No. 10/643,986

- 1 -

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/643,986

BOX AF

Group Art Unit: 1753

Inventor: P. McDonald

Filed: August 20, 2003

Title: METHOD OF TREATING
SPUTTERING TARGET TO REDUCE
BURN-IN TIME AND SPUTTERING
TARGET THEREOF AND
APPARATUS THEREOF

Examiner: S. Versteeg

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**REPLY AND AMENDMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

VIA FAX – (571) 273-8300

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action issued October 11, 2005. The Examiner set a three-month period for response. A petition and authorization for a three-month extension of time are attached, making this Reply and Amendment due on or before April 11, 2006. In addition, a Notice of Appeal is filed concurrently herewith.

Amendments to the Claims appear on Page 2 of this paper.

Remarks appear on Page 6 of this paper.